

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy****10 CFR Part 490**

[Docket No. EE-RM-99-507]

RIN 1904-AA98

Alternative Fuel Transportation Program; Requirements for Private and Local Government Fleets

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of deadlines.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy is extending the deadline for a rulemaking regarding alternative fueled vehicle acquisition requirements for private and local government fleets. The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486) allows the Department to extend the deadlines established under the Act and requires publication of a notice of the extension in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kenneth R. Katz, Program Manager, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EE-34), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585. (202) 586-9171.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486) authorizes DOE to pursue a rulemaking concerning alternative fueled vehicle acquisition requirements for private and local government fleets. Section 507(g) provides for a rulemaking, which was to be completed by January 1, 2000. As part of that rulemaking, section 507(c) of the Act required DOE to publish an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANOPR) to begin a rulemaking process to evaluate and examine the Act's replacement fuel goals and to determine whether alternative fueled vehicle (AFV) acquisition requirements for private and local government fleets are necessary to achieve the Act's energy security and other goals. 42 U.S.C. 13256(c).

DOE published an ANOPR for the purposes described in section 507(c) on April 17, 1998. 63 FR 19372. This notice was intended to stimulate comments to assist DOE in making decisions concerning future rulemaking actions and non-regulatory initiatives to promote alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles. Three hearings were held to receive oral comments on the ANOPR. They were held on May 20,

1998, in Los Angeles, California; on May 28, 1998, in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and on June 4, 1998, in Washington, DC. A total of 110 persons spoke at the three hearings, and/or submitted written comments which were to be received by July 16, 1998.

Section 507(h) provides that "The Secretary may, by notice published in the **Federal Register**, extend the deadlines established under subsections (e), (f)(2), and (g) for an additional 90 days if the Secretary is unable to meet such deadlines. Such extension shall not be reviewable." By publication of this notice, DOE is hereby extending the deadlines established under subsections (e), (f)(2), and (g), from January 1, 2000, for an additional 90 days.

The extension of the deadlines is necessary so that DOE can comply with the requirements for intergovernmental consultation as specified in Executive Order 13132 and a **Federal Register** Notice of final statement of policy (62 FR 12820, March 18, 1997). Section 6 of Executive Order 13132, Federalism (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999), specifies the consultation process that each agency must undertake to ensure meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that may have federalism implications. The Notice of final statement of policy publishes DOE policy on intergovernmental consultation under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995. Section III of that notice specifies the process that DOE must take when proposing a significant intergovernmental mandate on State, local, or tribal governments. DOE will also finalize its required regulatory analyses during this 90-day time frame.

DOE is planning on fulfilling the intergovernmental consultation requirements described above. However, at this time, DOE does not believe that a private and local government fleet program would have Federalism implications, nor would it meet the threshold established for a significant intergovernmental mandate, which is whether the aggregate annual compliance expenditures would equal or be in excess of \$100 million.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 29, 1999.

Thomas J. Gross,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Technologies.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 99-NE-61-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Tay 650-15 Series Turbofan Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to Rolls-Royce plc Tay 650-15 series turbofan engines. This proposal would establish cyclic life limits for stage 1 high pressure turbine (HPT) and stage 1 low pressure turbine (LPT) disks operating under new flight plan profiles. This proposal is prompted by reports that on some engines disk cracks in the stage 1 HPT and stage 1 LPT could initiate and propagate at a faster rate than forecast under the flight plan profiles originally published at the time the engine design was certified. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent crack initiation and propagation leading to turbine disk failure, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the aircraft.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-NE-61-AD, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299. Comments may also be submitted to the Rules Docket by using the following Internet address: "9-ane-adcomment@faa.gov". Comments may be inspected at this location between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Lawrence, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone 781-238-7176, fax 781-238-7199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Comments Invited**

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as